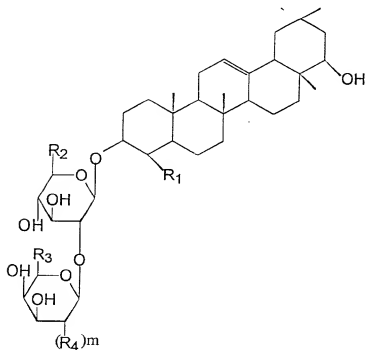


SAPONIN DERIVATIVES FOR INHIBITION
SIALYLTRANSFERASE ACTIVITY AND BIOSYNTHESIS OF
SIALOGLYCOCONJUGATE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides the use of the saponin derivatives, which is of the general formula (I) or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof:



wherein

R_1 is hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, or C_{1-8} alkylhydroxy;

R_2 is hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $COOH$, $COOC_{1-8}$ alkyl;

R₃ is C₁₋₈ alkylhydroxy, hydrogen, C₁₋₈ alkyl, C₂₋₆ alkenyl or C₂₋₆

R₄ is a sugar residue; and

m is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

and pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, as well as the use of such pharmaceutical composition in the inhibition of sialyltransferases.